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ABSTRACT

Presented via narrative and tabular data, this report includes: Population of the U.S., Total and Farm: 1960-1975; Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Residence of the Farm and Nonfarm Population, by Race: 1975; Fertility Characteristics of Farm and Nonfarm Women, by Race: 1975; Persons 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture, by Farm-Nonfarm Residence and Sex: April 1975 and 1970; Nonfarm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture, by Class of Worker and Sex: April 1975 and 1970; Income Characteristics of Farm and Nonfarm Families, by Race: 1974; Farm Population, by Race and Sex, for Broad Age Groups: April 1975 and 1970; Farm Population, by Age and Sex: April 1975 and 1970; Characteristics of Farm and Nonfarm Families, by Race: 1975; Employment Status of the Farm Population 14 years Old and Over, by Sex, April 1975 and 1970, and by Region, April 1975; Employment Status of the Farm Population 14 Years Old and Over, by Race, Sex, and for Region: April 1975; Farm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture, by Class of Worker, Race, and Sex, April 1975 and 1970, and by Region: April 1975; Farm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Nonagricultural Industries, by Class of Worker, Race, and Sex, for Regions: April 1975. (JC)

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CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

# Farm Population

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## FARM POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES: 1975

The number of persons living on farms in rural areas of the United States averaged 8,864,000 in the 12-month period centered on April 1975. About 1 person in 24, or 4.2 percent of the Nation's 213 million people, had a farm residence (table A). These estimates were prepared cooperatively by the Bureau of the Census and the Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The farm share of the total U.S. population has declined fairly steadily over the last 55 years (figure 1). In the 1920 census, when the farm population was first enumerated separately, 30.1 percent of the Nation's population resided on farms. By 1960, the farm proportion had fallen to 8.7 percent and by 1970 to 4.8 percent. The estimate for 1975 is 6.8 million, or 43 percent lower than in 1960 and is 848,000, or 9 percent lower than in 1970. The 1975 estimate of the farm population is 400,000 less than the 1974 estimate, and there is some evidence that this decline is statistically significant. The chances are about 1 out of 25 that a decline of this magnitude would have been obtained from the sample without any actual change in the farm population between 1974 and 1975.

In spite of the continuance of the long-term downward trend in the number of persons living on farms, there has been a considerable slackening in the rate of decline in recent years. Between 1970 and 1975, the rate of loss in the total farm population averaged 1.8 percent annually. This is significantly lower than the average annual rate of decline of 4.8 percent that occurred during the 1960-70 decade.

Table A. Population of the United States, Total and Farm: April 1960 to 1975

(Numbers in thousands)

| Year | Total resident population | Farm population | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Number of persons[1] | Percent of total population |
| 1975..... | 212,538 | 8,864 | 4.2 |
| 1974..... | 211,018 | 9,264 | 4.4 |
| 1973..... | 209,468 | 9,472 | 4.5 |
| 1972..... | 207,802 | 9,610 | 4.6 |
| 1971..... | 205,677 | 9,425 | 4.6 |
| 1970..... | [2]203,235 | 9,712 | 4.8 |
| 1969..... | 200,887 | 10,307 | 5.1 |
| 1968..... | 198,923 | 10,454 | 5.3 |
| 1967..... | 196,976 | 10,875 | 5.5 |
| 1966..... | 195,045 | 11,595 | 5.9 |
| 1965..... | 192,983 | 12,363 | 6.4 |
| 1964..... | 190,507 | 12,954 | 6.8 |
| 1963..... | 187,837 | 13,367 | 7.1 |
| 1962..... | 185,104 | 14,313 | 7.7 |
| 1961..... | 182,298 | 14,803 | 8.1 |
| 1960..... | [2]179,323 | 15,635 | 8.7 |

[1]Five-quarter averages centered on April; see "Definitions and Explanations."
[2]Official census count.

This report was prepared jointly by Vera J. Banks, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Diana DeAre and Robert C. Speaker, Population Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census.

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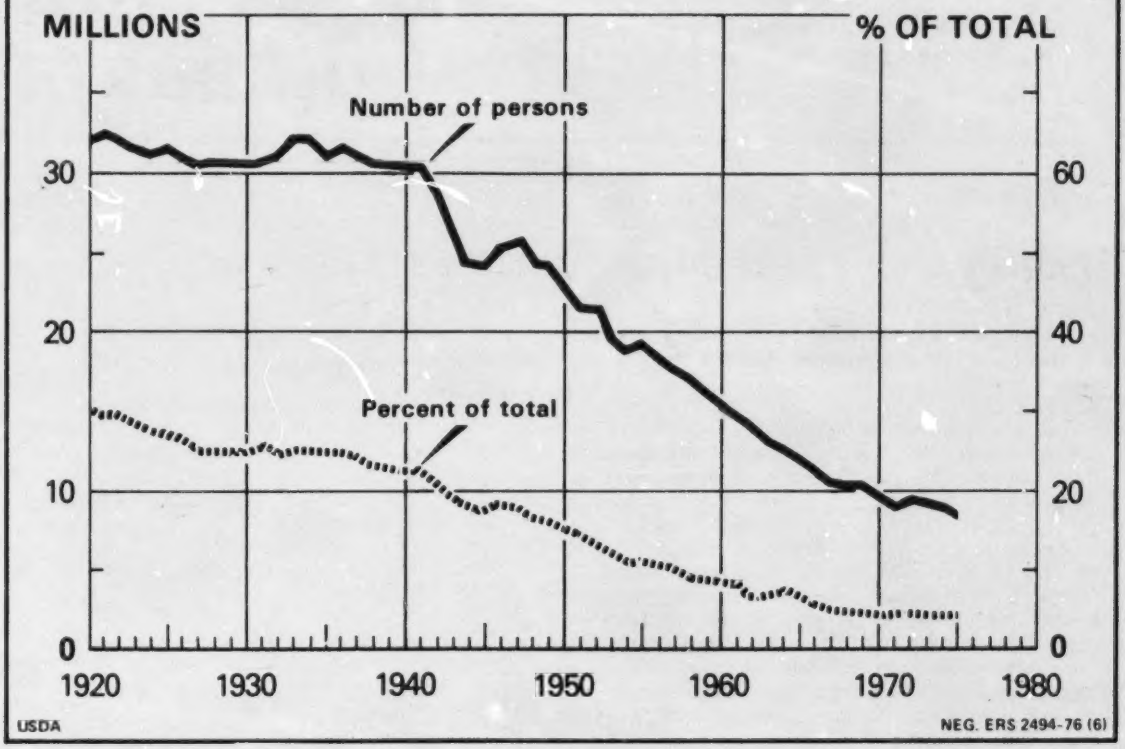
## Figure 1. FARM POPULATION, 1920-75




### DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FARM POPULATION

**Distribution.** While the farm population is primarily nonmetropolitan, one-fifth of the farm total lives within the boundaries of standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) as defined in 1970 (table B). In comparison, 70 percent of the nonfarm population lives in such areas. Data for families from the March 1975 Current Population Survey indicate that the majority of the farm population living in SMSA's are in areas of less than 1 million population.[1]

There is a difference by race in the distribution of the farm population by metropolitan-nonmetropolitan residence. Black[2] farm residents are more likely to live in nonmetropolitan counties than are Whites. In 1975, nearly nine-tenths of the Black farm population resided in nonmetropolitan areas; the comparable proportion for Whites was 80 percent. In contrast, Blacks who live off farms are more likely to be in metropolitan areas than are their White counterparts.

**Racial composition.** The farm population is predominantly White and increasingly so (table 1). Blacks on farms numbered 611,000 in 1975 and accounted for only 7 percent of the total farm population; the corresponding proportions in 1960 and 1970 were 16 and 10 percent, respectively. Between 1970 and 1975,

[1] U.S. Bureau of the Census, **Current Population Reports**, Series P-20, No. 291, "Household and Family Characteristics: March 1975." Much of this farm population is "metropolitan" in little more than a technical sense, being included in SMSA's because the latter are defined in terms of entire counties and thus frequently include non-suburbanized territory. The farm population in SMSA's may have a certain significance, however, as representing farm residents who live close to sizable cities.

[2] The data for Blacks in the text refer to Blacks and persons of races other than White. In the 1970 census, Blacks comprised 90 percent of the total population other than White and 87 percent of the farm population other than White.

Table B. Metropolitan-Nonmetropolitan Residence of the Farm and Nonfarm Population, by Race: 1975

(Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

| Race and residence | Total | Farm | Nonfarm |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALL RACES | | | |
| United States.....thousands.. | 208,683 | 8,864 | 199,819 |
| Inside SMSA's[1].....thousands.. | 141,993 | 1,716 | 140,277 |
| Percent..... | 68.0 | 19.4 | 70.2 |
| Outside SMSA's.....thousands.. | 66,690 | 7,148 | 59,542 |
| Percent..... | 32.0 | 80.6 | 29.8 |
| WHITE | | | |
| United States.....thousands.. | 181,636 | 8,253 | 173,383 |
| Inside SMSA's.....thousands.. | 121,277 | 1,646 | 119,631 |
| Percent..... | 66.8 | 19.9 | 69.0 |
| Outside SMSA's.....thousands.. | 60,359 | 6,607 | 53,752 |
| Percent..... | 33.2 | 80.1 | 31.0 |
| BLACK AND OTHER RACES | | | |
| United States.....thousands.. | 27,047 | 611 | 26,436 |
| Inside SMSA's.....thousands.. | 20,716 | 69 | 20,647 |
| Percent..... | 76.6 | 11.3 | 78.1 |
| Outside SMSA's.....thousands.. | 6,331 | 542 | 5,789 |
| Percent..... | 23.4 | 88.7 | 21.9 |

[1]SMSA's refers to standard metropolitan statistical areas as designated in the 1970 census publications; see "Definitions and Explanations."

the number of Whites on farms decreased by only 6 percent as compared with a 35-percent decrease for Blacks. The annual rate of loss for this 5-year period averaged 1.2 percent for Whites and 8.6 percent for Blacks.

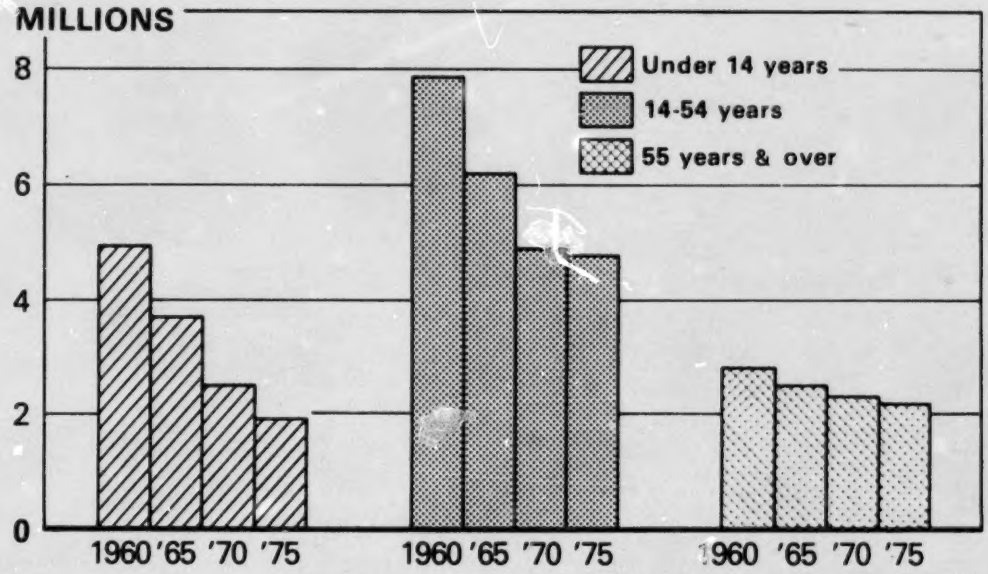
Historically, higher rates of population loss among Black farm residents have been associated with heavy losses in the number of cotton and tobacco tenant farmers. Blacks have had a disproportionate representation among tenant farmers, and the number of such farms has fallen steadily and sharply since 1935. With the effects of mechanization and modernization of cotton and tobacco farming, landowners have, for the most part, ceased to employ tenant labor to produce their crops. Declines in the number of small farms and of hired workers who live on farms have also contributed to the disproportionate drop in Black farm population.[3]

[3]Vera J. Banks and Calvin L. Beale, "Farm Population by Race, Tenure, and Economic Scale of Farming, 1960 and 1970," **Agricultural Economic Report** No. 228, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, 1972; and Calvin L. Beale, "The Black American in Agriculture" in Mabel M. Smythe, ed., **The Black American Reference Book** (Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1976).

**Age.** The farm population has been characterized for many years by unequal rates of population loss between the two broad age groups—under 14 years and 14 years old and over—which have affected the age structure of the farm population. Between 1970 and 1975, the number of farm children dropped by 25 percent. There was no significant change in the number of farm persons 14 years old and over. Consequently, the proportion of children in the farm population has fallen from 26 percent in 1970 to 21 percent in 1975 (figure 2 and table 2). As recently as 1960, children under 14 represented nearly a third of the total farm population. To a considerable degree, this decline is a reflection of past high net outmigration of young farm adults of childbearing age. However, much of the decline since 1970 in the population under 14 on farms can also be attributed to the recent sharp drop in the national birth rate, which has extended to both farm and nonfarm areas.

Higher rates of decrease among children under 14 years of age occurred for both racial groups. In the White farm population during the 1970-75 period, the number of children declined 21 percent while the number of those who were 14 years old and over remained about the same. The comparable rates of decline for Blacks were 52 and 25 percent, respectively.

## Figure 2. FARM POPULATION BY AGE FOR SELECTED YEARS, 1960-75




Despite the marked difference in rates of population loss, children continue to comprise a greater proportion of the Black farm population than they do of the White farm population. In 1975, 26 percent of all Blacks on farms were under 14 years of age, compared with 21 percent of White farm residents.

Among farm residents 14 years old and over, the proportion of young adults 20 to 34 years old rose from 13 to 15 percent over the 1970-75 period. No significant changes were evidenced in the proportions of farm teenagers—those 14 to 19 years old—or of the older age categories of farm adults. The increase in young adult farm residents is also supported by data on class of agricultural workers from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These data indicate that from 1970 to 1975, the median age of persons self-employed in agriculture dropped from 53.1 to 50.4 years. In this 5-year period, the number of these workers 20 to 34 years of age rose from 248,000 to 322,000, a gain of 30 percent.[4] Although these data relate to all self-employed persons in agriculture regardless of place of residence, such workers are mainly farm residents; a comparison of tables E and 6 shows that in 1975, 74 percent of self-employed agricultural workers lived on farms.

**Sex.** The dwindling size and changing age structure of the farm population has not affected the continuance of another of its distinctive features—more males than females. In 1975, farm males outnumbered farm females by about 300,000; there were 107 males on farms for every 100 females (table 2). By contrast, in the nonfarm civilian noninstitutional population where females are in

[4] U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, **Employment and Earnings**, January 1976, Vol. 22, No. 7, and January 1971, Vol. 17, No. 17.

the majority, there were only 93 males per 100 females. The stronger representation of males in the farm population reflects a somewhat higher rate of outmigration of farm females as compared with farm males. This outmigration of females from farms, typically as they reach maturity, in turn reflects the predominantly masculine nature of farm work; of the 2.1 million farm residents employed in agriculture in 1975, 1.8 million or more than four-fifths were male (table D).

**Family type and size.** Data from the March 1975 Current Population Survey indicate that a greater proportion of farm families than of nonfam families have both husband and wife present (table 3). Whereas 84 percent of nonfarm families include both husband and wife, the comparable figure for farm families is 93 percent. This difference between farm and nonfarm families holds for both racial groups.

Black farm families are significantly larger than nonfarm families. The average family size of Blacks on farms is 5.0 persons, whereas the average size of nonfarm Black families is 3.9 persons. Among Whites, the average sizes of farm and nonfarm families are 3.6 and 3.4 persons, respectively. The distributions of families by number of persons show that large families—those with six or more persons—constitute a greater share of farm families (13 percent) than of nonfarm families (10 percent).

The higher proportion of large families within the farm population is partially due to a larger number of children within farm families. The average number of own children per family with children under 18 is significantly higher for farm (2.33) than for nonfarm families (2.08). Among families with own children under 18, 30 percent of farm families have three or four own children and 8 percent have five children or more, whereas the comparable figures for nonfarm families are 25 and 5 percent. Another factor which may contribute to the larger size of farm families is the presence of relatively more elderly persons. The percent of farm families having members 65 years old and over was 23, which is significantly higher than the 18 percent for nonfarm families.

**Fertility.** As has historically been the case, the fertility of farm women continues to be higher than that of nonfarm women. Data for June 1975 (table C) provide evidence that the average number of children born to farm women aged 15 to 44 years who have ever been married is higher than the average born to ever-married nonfarm women in the same age group. Although no significant difference has yet been evidenced in the number of children ever born to farm and nonfarm ever-married women in the youngest childbearing ages (those 15 to 24 years old), there is some evidence that the number of children per 1,000 ever-married women in the 25 to 34 age category is higher

**Table C. Fertility Characteristics of Farm and Nonfarm Women, by Race: 1975**

| Characteristic | All races | | | White | | | Black and other races | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Farm | Non-farm | Total | Farm | Non-farm | Total | Farm | Non-farm |
| Children ever born per 1,000 women ever married: | | | | | | | | | |
| Total, 15 to 44 years..... | 2,140 | 2,756 | 2,121 | 2,069 | 2,689 | 2,048 | 2,653 | (B) | 2,637 |
| 15 to 24 years..... | 838 | 939 | 836 | 780 | 870 | 778 | 1,309 | (B) | 1,304 |
| 25 to 34 years..... | 1,961 | 2,205 | 1,955 | 1,908 | 2,156 | 1,901 | 2,345 | (B) | 2,337 |
| 35 to 44 years..... | 3,136 | 3,663 | 3,113 | 3,054 | 3,576 | 3,029 | 3,684 | (B) | 3,657 |
| Married women 14 to 39 years old[1]: | | | | | | | | | |
| Births to date per 1,000 women..... | 1,910 | 2,532 | 1,891 | 1,864 | 2,468 | 1,844 | 2,368 | (B) | 2,347 |
| Lifetime births expected per 1,000 women..... | 2,495 | 2,934 | 2,482 | 2,455 | 2,875 | 2,441 | 2,895 | (B) | 2,879 |

B Base less than 75,000.
[1]Data limited to currently married women reporting on birth expectations.

Source: Prepublication data from the June 1975 Current Population Survey. See table A-10 for bases and table A-9 for standard errors.

for the farm population and, for the 35 to 44 age category, the number of children born to ever-married farm women is significantly higher than the number born to nonfarm women.

Table C also presents June 1975 data on birth expectations of currently married women aged 14 to 39, which indicate that the farm-nonfarm fertility differential is likely to continue. Farm women in this age group expected to have a total of 2,934 births per 1,000 women. This is significantly higher than the 2,482 births per 1,000 expected by nonfarm women, although the difference in lifetime expected births is due entirely to a difference in fertility to date rather than in additional births expected.

## ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FARM POPULATION

**Labor force participation.** Of the 7 million farm residents 14 years old and over, about three-fifths were in the labor force, either employed or seeking work (table 4). There has been no significant change since 1970 in either the size of the farm resident labor force or the rate of labor force participation of farm residents. There has also been no significant change in participation by sex. In both 1970 and 1975, the rate of labor force participation was about 80 percent for males and about 38 percent for females. However, over a longer period—1960 to 1975—there has been a decrease in the participation of males and an increase in that of females. The labor force participation rates in 1960 were 85 percent and 30 percent, respectively. The increased frequency with which women are seeking and obtaining employment is a trend which has also been observed among females living in nonfarm areas.

The farm population exhibits some regional variation in labor force participation. Persons 14 years old and over living on farms in the combined Northern and Western States are more likely to be in the labor force than are farm residents in the South. This higher participation rate among persons residing on farms outside the South is accounted for by differences in the participation of farm males. The 1975 labor force participation rate was 83 percent for male residents of farms in the North and West compared with 76 percent for Southern farm males. There was no significant difference in female labor force participation by region.

Sixty-one percent of the White farm population 14 years old and over was in the labor force in 1975 (table 5). Among farm resident Blacks in this age group, 53 percent were in the labor force. This racial disparity in labor force participation occurred mainly among males, where the rate was 81 percent for Whites and 68 percent for Blacks. The likelihood of farm females being in the labor force was not significantly different by race (White, 39 percent; Black, 37 percent).

**Agricultural and nonagricultural employment.** Of the 4.1 million employed persons with a farm residence in 1975, only about half were employed solely or primarily in agriculture. Table 4 shows 52 percent so employed, and 48 percent employed in nonagricultural industries; there is some evidence of a statistically significant difference between the two. These percentages indicate a continuation of the downward trend in agricultural employment and the upward trend in nonagricultural employment of the farm resident labor force (figure 3 and table 4). In 1970, the proportions employed in farm and nonfarm work were 55 percent and 45 percent, respectively. Employment in nonagricultural pursuits was more prevalent among farm residents of the South than among those who lived on farms in the combined Northern and Western States. Within the South, 55 percent of employed farm residents worked in nonagricultural activities; outside the South, the proportion was 45 percent.

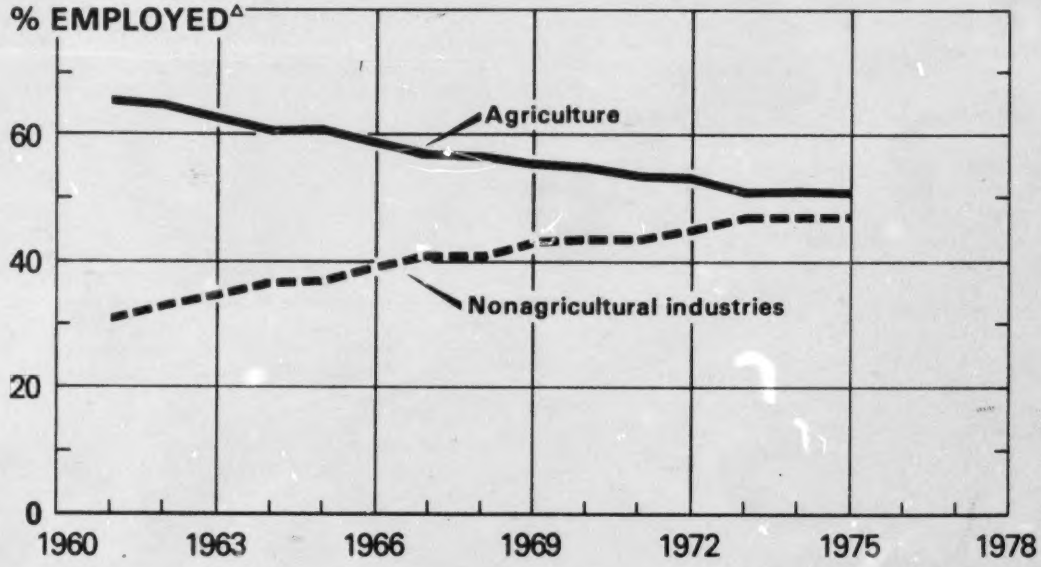
Farm women were more likely to be employed in nonagricultural pursuits than farm men, both in the South and in the combined North and West. Seventy-one percent of farm women were employed in nonfarm work in 1975; only 39 percent of farm men were so employed. There were no significant differences in the proportions employed in agriculture and nonagricultural industries by race (table 5).

**Unemployment.** Although unemployment among farm residents was higher in 1975 (during the height of the recent economic recession) than in 1970, it remains low relative to that of nonfarm residents. In 1975, the rate of unemployment—the percentage of the labor force currently without a job and looking for work—was 3.0 percent in the farm population (table 4). The comparable rate for the civilian noninstitutional population living off farms was 8.6 percent. In the farm resident labor force, unemployment was higher among Blacks than among Whites. The 1975 rates of unemployment for these two racial groups were 7.1 percent and 2.8 percent. Despite these racial differences, farm unemployment rates were lower than nonfarm unemployment rates for each racial group. For the civilian noninstitutional population living off farms, the rates of unemployment were 14.0 percent for Blacks and 7.8 percent for Whites.

The high incidence of multiple jobholding among persons employed in agriculture is thought to contribute to lower unemployment among farm residents. Agriculture plays a much greater role in multiple jobholding than in the general labor market. In May 1975, about 23 percent of all multiple jobholders had at least one job in agriculture.[5] Of this group, three-fifths combined a

[5] U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Multiple Jobholders in May 1975," **Monthly Labor Review**, November 1975.

## Figure 3. FARM RESIDENTS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE AND NONAGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES, 1961-75 *




* COMPARABLE DATA NOT AVAILABLE FOR YEARS PRIOR TO 1961
△ PERCENT OF FARM RESIDENT LABOR FORCE 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER

USDA NEG. ERS 2493-76 (6)

primary job as a nonagricultural wage and salary worker with self-employment in agriculture as a secondary job. This high incidence of multiple jobholding affects the unemployment rate of farm residents because when a farm operator with dual employment loses his nonfarm job, he is still counted as employed on the basis of his farm work.

**Class of worker.** Three-fifths of farm residents employed in agriculture in 1975 were self-employed, chiefly as farm operators, irrespective of region of residence (table 6). There were, however, regional differences in the proportions employed in the remaining two classes—wage and salary workers and unpaid family workers. In the South, workers who were not self-employed were more likely to be working for wages or salary. Although there was some variation in the combined Northern and Western States, employed farm residents were just as often unpaid family workers as wage and salary workers.

The overall dominance of self-employment as the major class of work applied only to farm men working in agriculture; this circumstance reflects the fact that relatively few women operate their own farms. Farm resident females employed in agriculture in 1975 were still most often classed as unpaid family workers (61 percent), although the proportion has declined significantly since 1970.

There was also a significant difference in the class-of-worker distribution by race. In 1975, self-employment was the dominant class of work for 62 percent of White farm residents employed in agriculture. Among Blacks on farms, only 31 percent were self-employed, and the largest group—57 percent—worked for wages or salary. The higher incidence of wage and salary employment among Blacks can be attributed, at least in part, to a higher proportion of hired farm workers and other nonoperators in the Black farm population. In June 1975, about one-third of the Black farm population

lived in nonoperator households, i.e., households that are located on a farm but do not contain a farm operator. The comparable proportion for Whites was 7 percent.[6]

About 2 million persons who resided on farms worked in nonagricultural industries in 1975. These farm resident nonagricultural employees were preponderantly wage and salary workers, regardless of their sex, race, or region of residence (table 7).

The 2.1 million farm residents who were employed in agriculture in 1975 represented 58 percent of total agricultural employment. There were an additional 1.5 million persons, or 42 percent of all agricultural workers, who were employed in agriculture but not living on farms (table D). Although the total number of persons working in agriculture has remained essentially unchanged since 1970, there has been an increase in both the number and proportion of nonfarm residents engaged in agriculture. This increase reflects a general trend among farm wage workers to commute from nonfarm places of residence to their farm jobs. By comparing tables E and 6 it can be seen that farm wage workers are more likely to live in nonfarm areas than on farms. In 1975, 7 out of every 10 wage and salary agricultural workers lived off farms. In contrast, self-employed and unpaid family workers in agriculture continue to be mainly farm residents.

**Income.** The differential between farm and nonfarm income is substantial, but declining. The median income of farm families was $10,430 in 1974, compared with $12,930 for nonfarm families (table F). Although this represents a difference of $2,500, the gap is only about 60 percent of that in 1970 as measured in constant 1974 dollars. Farm median family income in 1970 was $4,100 less, in terms of 1974 dollars, than that of nonfarm families. Since 1970, the median income of farm families has increased by 21 percent, while that of nonfarm families has increased by only about 2 percent in constant dollars.

The contrast between farm and nonfarm income levels is particularly sharp among Black families. While their nonfarm median family income was $8,320 in 1974, the median income of Black farm families was only $5,470. The latter figure also presents a striking contrast to that of White farm families ($10,750), being barely half as large.

The proportion of farm families who are below the low-income level is approximately 50 percent higher than that of nonfarm families (the official criteria for "low income" are set somewhat lower for farm residents). The proportion of Black farm families below the low-income level (45 percent) is about five times as high as the national average for all families and about four times as high as that for White farm families.

[6] Unpublished data from the June 1975 Enumerative Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service.

**Table D. Persons 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture, by Farm-Nonfarm Residence and Sex: April 1975 and 1970**

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

| Residence | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | | Percent distribution | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | |
| | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 |
| Total employed in agriculture | 3,633 | 3,696 | 2,997 | 3,045 | 635 | 650 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Farm residents | 2,117 | 2,333 | 1,754 | 1,902 | 363 | 431 | 58.3 | 63.1 | 58.5 | 62.5 | 57.2 | 66.3 |
| Nonfarm residents | 1,516 | 1,363 | 1,244 | 1,143 | 272 | 220 | 41.7 | 36.9 | 41.5 | 37.5 | 42.8 | 33.8 |

**Table E. Nonfarm Residents 14 Years Old and Over Employed in Agriculture, by Class of Worker and Sex: April 1975 and 1970**

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

| Class of worker | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | | Percent distribution | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | |
| | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 |
| Total agricultural workers | 1,516 | 1,363 | 1,244 | 1,143 | 272 | 220 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 455 | 424 | 411 | 396 | 44 | 28 | 30.0 | 31.1 | 33.0 | 34.6 | 16.2 | 12.7 |
| Wage and salary workers | 1,001 | 872 | 804 | 719 | 197 | 153 | 66.0 | 64.0 | 64.6 | 62.9 | 72.4 | 69.5 |
| Unpaid family workers | 61 | 66 | 29 | 27 | 31 | 39 | 4.0 | 4.8 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 11.4 | 17.7 |

**Table F. Income Characteristics of Farm and Nonfarm Families, by Race: 1974**

(Families as of March 1975)

| Characteristics | All races | | | White | | | Black and other races | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Farm | Nonfarm | Total | Farm | Nonfarm | Total | Farm | Nonfarm |
| Total families.....thousands.. | 55,712 | 2,398 | 53,314 | 49,451 | 2,284 | 47,166 | 6,262 | 113 | 6,148 |
| Families by 1974 income | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Less than $4,000 or loss | 9.0 | 16.1 | 8.6 | 7.4 | 14.9 | 7.0 | 21.7 | 38.9 | 21.4 |
| $4,000 to $9,999 | 26.9 | 31.9 | 26.6 | 25.6 | 31.5 | 25.3 | 37.0 | 39.8 | 36.9 |
| $10,000 to $14.999 | 24.4 | 20.4 | 24.6 | 25.1 | 20.8 | 25.3 | 19.0 | 10.6 | 19.1 |
| $15,000 and over | 39.8 | 31.7 | 40.2 | 42.0 | 32.7 | 42.5 | 22.3 | 10.6 | 22.6 |
| Median family income (1974 dollars): | | | | | | | | | |
| 1974 | $12,836 | $10,431 | $12,934 | $13,356 | $10,750 | $13,466 | $8,265 | $5,467 | $8,324 |
| 1973 | 13,373 | 11,149 | 13,486 | 13,977 | 11,517 | 14,102 | 8,429 | 5,072 | 8,522 |
| 1972 | 13,103 | 10,435 | 13,237 | 13,614 | 10,741 | 13,767 | 8,376 | 5,034 | 8,458 |
| 1971 | 12,523 | 8,760 | 12,706 | 12,995 | 9,026 | 13,192 | 8,175 | 4,509 | 8,295 |
| 1970 | 12,531 | 8,606 | 12,714 | 13,000 | 8,915 | 13,199 | 8,275 | 3,920 | 8,422 |
| Percent of families | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Below low-fncome level | 9.2 | 14.2 | 8.9 | 7.0 | 12.7 | 6.8 | 26.0 | 45.1 | 25.6 |
| Above low-income level | 90.8 | 85.8 | 91.1 | 93.0 | 87.3 | 93.2 | 74.0 | 54.9 | 74.4 |

Source: Data relate to income in 1974 from the March 1975 Current Population Survey. See Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 99, "Money Income and Poverty Status of Families and Persons in the United States: 1974 (Advance Report)" and Series P-60, Nos. 101 and 102.

## RELATED REPORTS

Comparable figures for 1974 appear in **Farm Population**, Series Census-ERS (P-27), No. 46, and earlier reports were published annually beginning in 1961.

Beginning with 1972, the data are not strictly comparable with data for earlier years because of adjustments in sample design and survey procedures occasioned by 1970 census data. However, the effect on comparability with prior data is not considered sufficient to warrant revisions of earlier statistics. Application of 1972 procedures to data for March 1970 lowered the farm population 14 years old and over by about 75,000.

Although not fully comparable with CPS, farm population figures for 1970 for the United States, States, and counties appear in chapter C of **1970 Census of Population**, Volume I, **Characteristics of the Population**; characteristics of the farm population by States are presented in chapter D.

## Table 1. FARM POPULATION, BY RACE AND SEX, FOR BROAD AGE GROUPS: APRIL 1975 AND 1970

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

| Age and race | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | | Percent distribution | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | |
| | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 |
| Total..... | 8,864 | 9,712 | 4,585 | 5,004 | 4,279 | 4,708 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| White..... | 8,253 | 8,775 | 4,264 | 4,524 | 3,989 | 4,251 | 93.1 | 90.4 | 93.0 | 90.4 | 93.2 | 90.3 |
| Black and other races. | 611 | 938 | 321 | 480 | 290 | 458 | 6.9 | 9.7 | 7.0 | 9.6 | 6.8 | 9.7 |
| Under 14 years.... | 1,861 | 2,490 | 958 | 1,274 | 903 | 1,216 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| White..... | 1,700 | 2,152 | 874 | 1,101 | 826 | 1,051 | 91.3 | 86.4 | 91.2 | 86.4 | 91.5 | 86.4 |
| Black and other races. | 161 | 338 | 84 | 173 | 77 | 165 | 8.7 | 13.6 | 8.8 | 13.6 | 8.5 | 13.6 |
| 14 years and over. | 7,003 | 7,222 | 3,627 | 3,730 | 3,376 | 3,492 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| White..... | 6,553 | 6,623 | 3,390 | 3,423 | 3,163 | 3,200 | 93.6 | 91.7 | 93.5 | 91.8 | 93.7 | 91.6 |
| Black and other races. | 450 | 600 | 237 | 307 | 213 | 293 | 6.4 | 8.3 | 6.5 | 8.2 | 6.3 | 8.4 |

## Table 2. FARM POPULATION, BY AGE AND SEX: APRIL 1975 AND 1970

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

| Age | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | | Percent distribution | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | Both sexes | | Male | | Female | |
| | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1970 |
| All ages..... | 8,864 | 9,712 | 4,585 | 5,004 | 4,279 | 4,708 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Under 14 years..... | 1,861 | 2,490 | 958 | 1,274 | 903 | 1,216 | 21.0 | 25.6 | 20.9 | 25.5 | 21.1 | 25.8 |
| 14 years and over..... | 7,003 | 7,222 | 3,627 | 3,730 | 3,376 | 3,492 | 79.0 | 74.4 | 79.1 | 74.5 | 78.9 | 74.2 |
| 14 to 19 years..... | 1,264 | 1,316 | 672 | 714 | 593 | 602 | 14.3 | 13.6 | 14.7 | 14.3 | 13.9 | 12.8 |
| 20 to 24 years..... | 549 | 502 | 317 | 269 | 232 | 232 | 6.2 | 5.2 | 6.9 | 5.4 | 5.4 | 4.9 |
| 25 to 34 years..... | 794 | 770 | 404 | 371 | 390 | 399 | 9.0 | 7.9 | 8.8 | 7.4 | 9.1 | 8.5 |
| 35 to 44 years..... | 989 | 1,061 | 468 | 518 | 522 | 543 | 11.2 | 10.9 | 10.2 | 10.4 | 12.2 | 11.5 |
| 45 to 54 years..... | 1,204 | 1,250 | 625 | 618 | 579 | 631 | 13.6 | 12.9 | 13.6 | 12.4 | 13.5 | 13.4 |
| 55 to 64 years..... | 1,130 | 1,202 | 591 | 641 | 539 | 561 | 12.7 | 12.4 | 12.9 | 12.8 | 12.6 | 11.9 |
| 65 years and over... | 1,072 | 1,122 | 551 | 599 | 521 | 523 | 12.1 | 11.6 | 12.0 | 12.0 | 12.2 | 11.1 |

## Table 3. CHARACTERISTICS OF FARM AND NONFARM FAMILIES, BY RACE: 1975

| Characteristic | All races | | | White | | | Black and other races | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Farm | Nonfarm | Total | Farm | Nonfarm | Total | Farm | Nonfarm |
| Total families.....thousands.. | 55,712 | 2,398 | 53, | 49,451 | 2,284 | 47,166 | 6,261 | 114 | 6,148 |
| Metropolitan.....thousands.. | 37,741 | 461 | 37 | 32,850 | 45 | 32,399 | 4,891 | 10 | 4,881 |
| Percent..... | 67.7 | 19.2 | | 66.4 | 19.7 | 68.7 | 78.1 | 8.8 | 79.4 |
| Nonmetropolitan.....thousands.. | 17,971 | 1,937 | 16, | 16,601 | 1,833 | 14,768 | 1,370 | 104 | 1,266 |
| Percent..... | 32.3 | 80.8 | 30.1 | 33.6 | 80.3 | 31.3 | 21.9 | 91.2 | 20.6 |
| All types..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Husband-wife..... | 84.3 | 92.5 | 83.9 | 86.9 | 92.9 | 86.6 | 63.9 | 85.1 | 63.5 |
| Other male head..... | 2.7 | 3.1 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 3.1 | 2.5 | 3.7 | 3.5 | 3.7 |
| Female head..... | 13.0 | 4.3 | 13.4 | 10.5 | 4.0 | 10.9 | 32.4 | 11.4 | 32.8 |
| All sizes..... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| 2 persons..... | 37.4 | 35.4 | 37.5 | 38.5 | 36.0 | 38.6 | 28.8 | 23.9 | 28.9 |
| 3 to 5 persons..... | 52.9 | 51.5 | 52.9 | 52.8 | 52.1 | 52.8 | 53.6 | 40.7 | 53.9 |
| 6 or more persons..... | 9.8 | 13.1 | 9.6 | 8.8 | 12.0 | 8.6 | 17.6 | 35.4 | 17.3 |
| Mean size of family..... | 3.42 | 3.62 | 3.41 | 3.36 | 3.55 | 3.35 | 3.89 | 5.02 | 3.87 |
| All families with own children under 18. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| 1-2 own children under 18..... | 69.9 | 61.2 | 70.2 | 70.9 | 63.1 | 71.2 | 63.1 | (B) | 63.7 |
| 3-4 own children under 18..... | 24.9 | 30.3 | 24.7 | 24.7 | 29.5 | 24.5 | 26.3 | (B) | 26.3 |
| 5 or more own children under 18..... | 5.2 | 8.5 | 5.1 | 4.4 | 7.4 | 4.3 | 10.3 | (B) | 10.1 |
| Mean number of own children..... | 2.09 | 2.33 | 2.08 | 2.05 | 2.28 | 2.04 | 2.30 | (B) | 2.28 |
| Percent of all families with members— | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 18 years..... | 56.4 | 51.3 | 56.6 | 54.5 | 50.4 | 54.7 | 70.9 | 69.3 | 70.9 |
| 18 to 64 years..... | 92.4 | 90.5 | 92.5 | 92.0 | 90.3 | 92.1 | 95.9 | 95.6 | 96.0 |
| 65 years and over..... | 17.7 | 22.9 | 17.5 | 18.1 | 22.9 | 17.9 | 14.9 | 21.1 | 14.8 |

B Base less than 75,000.

Source: Data from March 1975 Current Population Survey. See Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 291, "Household and Family Characteristics: March 1975." See tables A-3, A-7, and A-8 for standard errors.

# Table 4. EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE FARM POPULATION 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY SEX, APRIL 1975 AND 1970, AND BY REGION, APRIL 1975

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

| Sex and employment status | United States | | North and West | South | Percent distribution | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | United States | | North and West | South |
| | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1975 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1975 |
| Both sexes | 7,003 | 7,222 | 4,419 | 2,583 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| In labor force | 4,219 | 4,293 | 2,754 | 1,474 | 60.4 | 59.4 | 62.3 | 57.1 |
| Not in labor force | 2,774 | 2,929 | 1,665 | 1,109 | 39.6 | 40.6 | 37.7 | 42.9 |
| In labor force | 4,229 | 4,293 | 2,754 | 1,474 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Employed | 4,101 | 4,211 | 2,684 | 1,417 | 97.0 | 98.1 | 97.5 | 96.1 |
| Agriculture | 2,117 | 2,393 | 1,483 | 633 | 50.1 | 54.3 | 53.8 | 42.9 |
| Nonagricultural industries | 1,984 | 1,878 | 1,200 | 784 | 46.9 | 43.7 | 43.6 | 53.2 |
| Unemployed | 128 | 82 | 70 | 57 | 3.0 | 1.9 | 2.5 | 3.9 |
| Male | 3,627 | 3,730 | 2,309 | 1,318 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| In labor force | 2,917 | 2,974 | 1,922 | 996 | 80.4 | 79.7 | 83.2 | 75.6 |
| Not in labor force | 710 | 756 | 387 | 322 | 19.6 | 20.3 | 16.8 | 24.4 |
| In labor force | 2,917 | 2,974 | 1,922 | 996 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Employed | 2,856 | 2,932 | 1,885 | 971 | 97.9 | 98.6 | 98.1 | 97.5 |
| Agriculture | 1,754 | 1,902 | 1,217 | 536 | 60.1 | 64.0 | 63.3 | 53.8 |
| Nonagricultural industries | 1,103 | 1,030 | 668 | 435 | 37.8 | 34.6 | 34.8 | 43.7 |
| Unemployed | 61 | 42 | 37 | 25 | 2.1 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 2.5 |
| Female | 3,376 | 3,492 | 2,111 | 1,265 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| In labor force | 1,312 | 1,319 | 833 | 479 | 38.9 | 37.8 | 39.5 | 37.9 |
| Not in labor force | 2,064 | 2,173 | 1,278 | 786 | 61.1 | 62.2 | 60.5 | 62.1 |
| In labor force | 1,312 | 1,319 | 833 | 479 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Employed | 1,245 | 1,279 | 799 | 446 | 94.9 | 97.0 | 95.9 | 93.1 |
| Agriculture | 363 | 431 | 266 | 97 | 27.7 | 32.7 | 31.9 | 20.3 |
| Nonagricultural industries | 882 | 849 | 533 | 349 | 67.2 | 64.4 | 64.0 | 72.9 |
| Unemployed | 67 | 40 | 34 | 33 | 5.1 | 3.0 | 4.1 | 6.9 |

# Table 5. EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE FARM POPULATION 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER, BY RACE, SEX, AND FOR REGION: APRIL 1975

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

| Labor force status, race, and sex | United States | North and West | South | Percent distribution | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | United States | North and West | South |
| WHITE | | | | | | |
| Both sexes | 6,553 | 4,385 | 2,169 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| In labor force | 3,991 | 2,736 | 1,254 | 60.9 | 62.4 | 57.8 |
| Not in labor force | 2,563 | 1,648 | 914 | 39.1 | 37.6 | 42.1 |
| In labor force | 3,991 | 2,736 | 1,254 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Employed | 3,880 | 2,667 | 1,212 | 97.2 | 97.5 | 96.7 |
| Agriculture | 1,998 | 1,473 | 525 | 50.1 | 53.8 | 41.9 |
| Nonagricultural industries | 1,882 | 1,194 | 687 | 47.2 | 43.6 | 54.8 |
| Unemployed | 111 | 69 | 42 | 2.8 | 2.5 | 3.3 |
| Male | 3,390 | 2,288 | 1,101 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| In labor force | 2,757 | 1,907 | 850 | 81.3 | 83.3 | 77.2 |
| Not in labor force | 633 | 382 | 251 | 18.7 | 16.7 | 22.8 |
| In labor force | 2,757 | 1,907 | 850 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Employed | 2,702 | 1,872 | 830 | 98.0 | 98.2 | 97.6 |
| Agriculture | 1,656 | 1,209 | 448 | 60.1 | 63.4 | 52.7 |
| Nonagricultural industries | 1,046 | 663 | 382 | 37.9 | 34.8 | 44.9 |
| Unemployed | 55 | 35 | 20 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 2.4 |
| Female | 3,163 | 2,095 | 1,067 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| In labor force | 1,233 | 829 | 404 | 39.0 | 39.6 | 37.9 |
| Not in labor force | 1,930 | 1,266 | 663 | 61.0 | 60.4 | 62.1 |
| In labor force | 1,233 | 829 | 404 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Employed | 1,178 | 796 | 382 | 95.5 | 96.0 | 94.6 |
| Agriculture | 341 | 264 | 77 | 27.7 | 31.8 | 19.1 |
| Nonagricultural industries | 836 | 532 | 305 | 67.8 | 64.2 | 75.5 |
| Unemployed | 56 | 33 | 22 | 4.5 | 4.0 | 5.4 |
| BLACK AND OTHER RACES | | | | | | |
| Both sexes | 450 | 35 | 415 | 100.0 | (B) | 100.0 |
| In labor force | 238 | 17 | 220 | 52.9 | (B) | 53.0 |
| Not in labor force | 211 | 16 | 195 | 46.9 | (B) | 47.0 |
| In labor force | 238 | 17 | 220 | 100.0 | (B) | 100.0 |
| Employed | 221 | 16 | 205 | 92.9 | (B) | 93.2 |
| Agriculture | 119 | 10 | 108 | 50.0 | (B) | 49.1 |
| Nonagricultural industries | 102 | 6 | 97 | 42.9 | (B) | 44.1 |
| Unemployed | 17 | 1 | 15 | 7.1 | (B) | 6.8 |
| Male | 237 | 20 | 217 | 100.0 | (B) | 100.0 |
| In labor force | 160 | 13 | 146 | 67.5 | (B) | 67.3 |
| Not in labor force | 77 | 5 | 71 | 32.5 | (B) | 32.7 |
| In labor force | 160 | 13 | 146 | 100.0 | (B) | 100.0 |
| Employed | 154 | 12 | 141 | 96.2 | (B) | 96.6 |
| Agriculture | 97 | 8 | 88 | 60.6 | (B) | 60.3 |
| Nonagricultural industries | 57 | 4 | 53 | 35.6 | (B) | 36.3 |
| Unemployed | 6 | 1 | 5 | 3.8 | (B) | 3.4 |
| Female | 213 | 15 | 198 | 100.0 | (B) | 100.0 |
| In labor force | 78 | 3 | 74 | 36.6 | (B) | 37.4 |
| Not in labor force | 134 | 10 | 124 | 62.9 | (B) | 62.6 |
| In labor force | 78 | 3 | 74 | 100.0 | (B) | 100.0 |
| Employed | 67 | 3 | 64 | 85.9 | (B) | 86.5 |
| Agriculture | 22 | 1 | 20 | 28.2 | (B) | 27.0 |
| Nonagricultural industries | 46 | 2 | 44 | 59.0 | (B) | 59.5 |
| Unemployed | 11 | - | 10 | 14.1 | (B) | 13.5 |

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.
B Base less than 75,000.

# Table 6. FARM RESIDENTS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE, BY CLASS OF WORKER, RACE, AND SEX, APRIL 1975 AND 1970, AND BY REGION: APRIL 1975

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five-quarter averages centered on April)

| Race, sex, and class of worker | United States | | North and West | South | Percent distribution | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | United States | | North and West | South |
| | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1975 | 1975 | 1970 | 1975 | 1975 |
| TOTAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS | | | | | | | | |
| Both sexes | 2,117 | 2,333 | 1,483 | 633 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 1,275 | 1,411 | 890 | 385 | 60.2 | 60.5 | 60.0 | 60.8 |
| Wage and salary workers | 443 | 395 | 278 | 164 | 20.9 | 16.9 | 18.7 | 25.9 |
| Unpaid family workers | 398 | 526 | 314 | 84 | 18.8 | 22.5 | 21.2 | 13.3 |
| Male | 1,754 | 1,902 | 1,217 | 536 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 1,202 | 1,352 | 845 | 358 | 68.5 | 71.1 | 69.4 | 66.8 |
| Wage and salary workers | 377 | 349 | 236 | 140 | 21.5 | 18.3 | 19.4 | 26.1 |
| Unpaid family workers | 175 | 200 | 137 | 38 | 10.0 | 10.5 | 11.3 | 7.1 |
| Female | 363 | 431 | 266 | 97 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 74 | 59 | 47 | 28 | 20.4 | 13.7 | 17.7 | 28.9 |
| Wage and salary workers | 66 | 46 | 42 | 24 | 18.2 | 10.7 | 15.8 | 24.7 |
| Unpaid family workers | 223 | 326 | 177 | 46 | 61.4 | 75.6 | 66.5 | 47.4 |
| WHITE | | | | | | | | |
| Both sexes | 1,998 | 2,158 | 1,473 | 525 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 1,238 | 1,358 | 887 | 351 | 62.0 | 62.9 | 60.2 | 66.9 |
| Wage and salary workers | 375 | 299 | 272 | 102 | 18.8 | 13.9 | 18.5 | 19.4 |
| Unpaid family workers | 385 | 501 | 314 | 71 | 19.3 | 23.2 | 21.3 | 13.5 |
| Male | 1,656 | 1,762 | 1,209 | 448 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 1,166 | 1,304 | 840 | 325 | 70.4 | 74.0 | 69.5 | 72.5 |
| Wage and salary workers | 321 | 271 | 231 | 89 | 19.4 | 15.4 | 19.1 | 19.9 |
| Unpaid family workers | 170 | 187 | 137 | 33 | 10.3 | 10.6 | 11.3 | 7.4 |
| Female | 341 | 396 | 264 | 77 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 72 | 54 | 47 | 26 | 21.1 | 13.6 | 17.8 | 33.8 |
| Wage and salary workers | 54 | 28 | 41 | 13 | 15.8 | 7.1 | 15.5 | 16.9 |
| Unpaid family workers | 215 | 314 | 177 | 38 | 63.0 | 79.3 | 67.0 | 49.4 |
| BLACK AND OTHER RACES | | | | | | | | |
| Both sexes | 119 | 175 | 10 | 108 | 100.0 | 100.0 | (B) | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 37 | 53 | 4 | 33 | 31.1 | 30.3 | (B) | 30.6 |
| Wage and salary workers | 68 | 97 | 4 | 62 | 57.1 | 55.4 | (B) | 57.4 |
| Unpaid family workers | 13 | 25 | 1 | 13 | 10.9 | 14.3 | (B) | 12.0 |
| Male | 97 | 140 | 8 | 88 | 100.0 | 100.0 | (B) | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 36 | 48 | 4 | 32 | 37.1 | 34.3 | (B) | 36.4 |
| Wage and salary workers | 56 | 79 | 4 | 51 | 57.7 | 56.4 | (B) | 58.0 |
| Unpaid family workers | 5 | 13 | - | 5 | 5.2 | 9.3 | (B) | 5.7 |
| Female | 22 | 35 | 1 | 20 | (B) | (B) | (B) | (B) |
| Self-employed workers | 1 | 5 | - | 1 | (B) | (B) | (B) | (B) |
| Wage and salary workers | 12 | 18 | - | 11 | (B) | (B) | (B) | (B) |
| Unpaid family workers | 8 | 12 | 1 | 8 | (B) | (B) | (B) | (B) |

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.
B Base less than 75,000.

## Table 7. FARM RESIDENTS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER EMPLOYED IN NONAGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES, BY CLASS OF WORKER, RACE, AND SEX, FOR REGIONS: APRIL 1975

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are five quarter averages centered on April)

| Race, sex, and class of worker | United States | North and West | South | Percent distribution | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | United States | North and West | South |
| TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL WORKERS | | | | | | |
| Both sexes | 1,984 | 1,200 | 784 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 188 | 101 | 86 | 9.5 | 8.4 | 11.0 |
| Wage and salary workers | 1,780 | 1,088 | 692 | 89.7 | 90.7 | 88.3 |
| Unpaid family workers | 16 | 10 | 6 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| Male | 1,103 | 668 | 435 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 137 | 76 | 62 | 12.4 | 11.4 | 14.3 |
| Wage and salary workers | 963 | 591 | 373 | 87.3 | 88.5 | 85.7 |
| Unpaid family workers | 2 | 1 | - | 0.2 | 0.1 | - |
| Female | 882 | 533 | 349 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 51 | 27 | 24 | 5.8 | 5.1 | 6.9 |
| Wage and salary workers | 817 | 498 | 319 | 92.6 | 93.4 | 91.4 |
| Unpaid family workers | 14 | 8 | 6 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.7 |
| WHITE | | | | | | |
| Both sexes | 1,882 | 1,194 | 687 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 181 | 103 | 81 | 9.6 | 8.6 | 11.8 |
| Wage and salary workers | 1,684 | 1,084 | 601 | 89.5 | 90.8 | 87.5 |
| Unpaid family workers | 16 | 9 | 6 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.9 |
| Male | 1,046 | 663 | 382 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 131 | 76 | 57 | 12.5 | 11.5 | 14.9 |
| Wage and salary workers | 912 | 587 | 325 | 87.2 | 88.5 | 85.1 |
| Unpaid family workers | 2 | 1 | - | 0.2 | 0 | - |
| Female | 836 | 532 | 305 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 50 | 27 | 24 | 6.0 | 5.1 | 7.9 |
| Wage and salary workers | 772 | 497 | 276 | 92.3 | 93.4 | 90.5 |
| Unpaid family workers | 14 | 8 | 6 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 2.0 |
| BLACK AND OTHER RACES | | | | | | |
| Both sexes | 102 | 6 | 97 | 100.0 | (B) | 100.0 |
| Self-employed workers | 7 | 1 | 5 | 6.9 | (B) | 5.2 |
| Wage and salary workers | 95 | 5 | 91 | 93.1 | (B) | 93.8 |
| Unpaid family workers | - | - | - | - | (B) | - |
| Male | 57 | 4 | 53 | (B) | (B) | (B) |
| Self-employed workers | 6 | 1 | 5 | (B) | (B) | (B) |
| Wage and salary workers | 51 | 3 | 48 | (B) | (B) | (B) |
| Unpaid family workers | - | - | - | (B) | (B) | (B) |
| Female | 46 | 2 | 44 | (B) | (B) | (B) |
| Self-employed workers | 1 | - | - | (B) | (B) | (B) |
| Wage and salary workers | 44 | 2 | 43 | (B) | (B) | (B) |
| Unpaid family workers | - | - | - | (B) | (B) | (B) |

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.
B Base less than 75,000.

# APPENDIX

## DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

**Population coverage.** With the exception of the total population shown in table A, all figures in this report relate to the civilian noninstitutional population. The total population shown in table B (208,683,000) differs from the estimated April 1, 1975 total civilian population (210,939,000) chiefly in excluding the institutional population, but also because the five-quarter average centered on April 1975 was slightly lower than the estimated noninstitutional total for that month. For the Current Population Survey, both the institutional and military components of the population are regarded as entirely nonfarm.

**Farm population.**[1] In the Current Population Survey, as in the 1960 and 1970 Censuses of Population, the farm population consists of all persons living in rural territory on places of 10 or more acres if as much as $50 worth of agricultural products were sold from the place in the reporting year (for the CPS, the preceding 12 months). It also includes those living on places of under 10 acres if as much as $250 worth of agricultural products were sold from the place in the reporting year. Persons in institutions, summer camps, motels, and tourist camps, and those living on rented places where no land is used for farming, are classified as nonfarm.

Since April 1960 farm residence has been determined in the Current Population Survey by the responses to two questions Owners are asked, "Does this place have 10 or more acres?" and renters are asked, "Does the place you rent have 10 or more acres?" If the response is "Yes," the respondent is asked, "During the past 12 months, did sales of crops, livestock, and other farm products from this place amount to $50 or more?" If the acreage response is "No," the inquiry relates to sales of $250 or more.

Farms located within the boundaries of urban territory, comprising a small minority of all farms, are not treated as farms for population census purposes, and their population is not included in the farm population. Urban territory includes all places with a population of 2,500 or more and the densely settled urbanized fringe areas around cities of 50,000 or more. Begining with the 1972 estimate, the estimated farm population is limited to the rural territory as determined in the 1970 Census of Population. In the Current Population Surveys of 1963 through 1971, the urban-rural boundaries used were those of the 1960 Census of Population and did not take into account the annexations and other substantial expansions of urban territory that were incorporated into the 1970 Census of Population. The net effect was to classify an unknown number of persons as rural farm in the Current Population Surveys of 1970 and 1971 who were treated as urban (and hence nonfarm) in the 1970 census as well as in the Current Population Surveys begining in 1972.

Under CPS procedures a place is classified by farm or nonfarm residence at the time the household enters the sample. Prior to April 1963, this initial classification was retained in most cases, without re-examination, for the entire 16-month period in which a household remains in the sample. (A household is in the panel for 4 months, drops out for 8 months, and then is reinstated for 4 months.) In view of the continued decline in the farm population, it is likely that some places which qualified as farms on entrance no longer met the criteria toward the end of the 16-month period. Since April 1963 the questions concerning farm residence have been re-asked of all households as they are reinstated in the sample a year after their first interview. The precise effect of the procedure has not been measured. It is not thought to be great, but the direction of change is almost certainly toward a lowering of the 1963 and subsequent farm population estimates in comparison with what the former procedure would have yielded.

In the Current Population Survey, unmarried persons attending college away from home are enumerated as residents of their parents' homes, whereas in the Census of Population such persons are enumerated as residents of the communities in which they live while attending college. The effect of this difference is to classify a larger number of college-aged persons as farm residents in the Current Population Survey than would be so classified under decennial census usage.

[1] In August 1975, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of the Census announced a change in the official definition of a farm. In the future, a farm will be defined as any place from which $1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold, or would normally be sold, from the place in the reporting year. However, the figures presented in this report are based on the definition in use from 1960 to 1975 which is described in the text.

**Nonfarm population.** The nonfarm population comprises all persons living in urban areas and all rural persons not on farms.

**Five-quarter averages centered on April.** April-centered annual averages of the farm population for the years 1970 through 1975 were computed by using data for the five quarters centered on the April date for which the estimate was being prepared. For example, for April 1975, quarterly estimates for the months of October 1974, and January, April, July, and October 1975, were used with a weight of one-eighth given to each of the two October estimates and a weight of one-fourth to each of the estimates for the other 3 months. One reason for the choice of April as the date for centering population estimates is that this is the decennial census month.

April-centered annual averages for persons under 14 years by race and sex, and for persons 14 years old and over, by race, sex, age, labor force characteristics, and region were also computed for 1975 by using data for the specified characteristics for the five quarters centered on April 1975.

**Metropolitan-nonmetropolitan residence.** The population residing in standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) constitutes the metropolitan population. The metropolitan population in this report is based on SMSA's as defined in the 1970 population census publications and does not include any subsequent additions or changes. For the 1970 census, except in New England, an SMSA is a county or group of contiguous counties which contains at least one city of 50,000 inhabitants or more, or "twin cities" with a combined population of at least 50,000. In addition to the county, or counties, containing such a city or cities, contiguous counties are included in an SMSA if, according to certain criteria, they are essentially metropolitan in character and are socially and economically integrated with the central county. In New England, SMSA's consist of towns and cities, rather than counties.

**Geographic regions.** The major regions of the United States for which data are presented represent groups of States, as follows:

**North and West:** Northeast, North Central, and West regions combined.

**Northeast:** Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont.

**North Central:** Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

**West:** Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

**South:** Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia.

**Age.** The age classification is based on the age of the person at last birthday.

**Race.** The population is divided into three groups on the basis of race: White, Black, and "other races." The last category includes Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and any other race except White and Black. In this report, Blacks refer to Blacks and persons of races other than White.

**Family.** The term "family," as used in this report, refers to a group of two or more persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such persons are considered as members of the same family. Thus, if the son of the head of the household and the son's wife are in the household, they are treated as part of the head's family. On the other hand, a lodger and his wife not related to the head of the household or an unrelated servant and his wife are considered as additional families, and not a part of the household head's family.

The mean size of family is derived by dividing the number of persons in families by the total number of families. In the classification of families by number of family members, the head of the family and all other persons in the family are included. The number of family members is the same as size of family.

**Head of family.** One person in each family was designated as the head. The head of a family is usually the person regarded as the head by members of the family. Women are not classified as heads if their husbands are resident members of the family at the time of the survey. Married couples related to the head of a family are included in the head's family and are not classified as separate families.

**Type of family.** The classification of families by type is based on the sex and marital status of head. Families with a head and wife present are termed "husband-wife" families. Families in which the spouse of the head is not present are families with "other male head" or "female head" depending on the sex of the head.

**Own children.** "Own" children in a family are single (never married) sons and daughters, including stepchildren and adopted children, of the family head. In table 3, the mean number of own children is derived by dividing the number of children by the total number of families with own children under 18.

**Marital status.** Data refer to present marital status. The primary categories of marital status are single (never married) and ever married. The following sub-categories

of ever married may be distinguished: (1) married, spouse present; (2) married, spouse absent (excluding separated); (3) separated; (4) widowed; or (5) divorced.

**Lifetime birth expectations.** Lifetime births expected are determined by adding any additional births a woman expects to the children she has already borne, if any. Questions regarding expected additional births were asked in June 1975 of women 14 to 39 years old who were currently married (spouse present or spouse absent excluding separated).

**Births to date.** In the data on birth expectations of wives in table C, the number of "births to date" has the same meaning as the number of children ever born.

**Children ever born.** The term "children ever born" refers to the total number of live births reported by ever-married women. Included in the number are children born to the woman before her present marriage, children no longer living, and children away from home, as well as children who were still living in the home.

**Labor force and employment status.** The definitions of labor force and employment status in this report relate to the population 14 years old and over.

**Labor force.** Persons are classified as in the labor force if they were employed as civilians, unemployed, or in the Armed Forces during the survey week. The "civilian labor force" is comprised of all civilians classified as employed or unemployed.

**Employed.** Employed persons comprise (1) all civilians who, during the specified week, did any work at all as paid employees or in their own business or profession, or on their own farm, or who worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a farm or in a business operated by a member of the family, and (2) all those who were not working but who had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, or because they were taking time off for personal reasons, whether or not they were paid by their employers for time off, and whether or not they were seeking other jobs. Excluded from the employed group are persons whose only activity consisted of work around the house (such as own home housework, painting or repairing own home, etc.) or volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations.

**Unemployed.** Unemployed persons are those civilians who, during the survey week, had no employment but were available for work and (1) had engaged in any specific jobseeking activity within the past 4 weeks, such as registering at a public or private employment office, meeting with prospective employers, checking with friends or relatives, placing or answering advertisements, writing letters of application, or being on a union or professional register; (2) were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off; or (3) were waiting to report to a new wage or salary job within 30 days.

**Not in the labor force.** All civilians who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as "not in the labor force." This group who are neither employed nor seeking work includes persons engaged only in own home housework, attending school, or unable to work because of long-term physical or mental illness; persons who are retired or too old to work; seasonal workers for whom the survey week fell in an off season; and the voluntarily idle. Persons doing only unpaid family work (less than 15 hours) are also classified as not in the labor force.

**Agriculture.** The industry category "agriculture" is somewhat more inclusive than the total of the two major occupation groups, "farmers and farm managers" and "farm laborers and supervisors." It also includes (1) persons employed on farms in occupations such as truck driver, mechanic, and bookkeeper, and (2) persons engaged in certain activities other than strictly farm operation such as cotton ginning, contract farm services, veterinary and breeding services, hatcheries, experimental stations, greenhouses, landscape gardening, tree service, trapping, hunting preserves, and kennels.

**Nonagricultural industries.** This category includes all industries not specifically classed under agriculture.

**Multiple jobs.** Persons with two or more jobs during the survey week were classified as employed in the industry in which they worked the greatest number of hours during the week. Consequently, some of the persons shown in this report as engaged in nonagricultural activities also engaged in agriculture and vice versa.

**Class of worker**

**Self-employed workers.** Persons who worked for profit or fees in their own business, profession, or trade, or who operated a farm either as an owner or tenant.

**Wage and salary workers.** Persons who worked for any governmental unit or private employer for wages, salary, commission, tips, pay "in kind," or at piece rates.

**Unpaid family workers.** Persons who worked without pay on a farm or in a business operated by a person to whom they are related by blood or marriage.

**Income.** Total money income is the algebraic sum of the amounts received in the preceding calendar year from each of the following sources: (1) Money wages or salary; (2) net income from nonfarm self-employment; (3) net income from farm self-employment; (4) Social Security or railroad retirement; (5) dividends, interest (on savings or bonds), income from estates or trusts, or

net rental income; (6) public assistance or welfare payments; (7) unemployment and workmen's compensation, government employee pensions, or veterans' payments; (8) private pensions, annuities, alimony, regular contributions from persons not living in this household, and other periodic income.

Receipts from the following sources are not included as income: (1) Money received from the sale of property, such as stocks, bonds, a house, or a car (unless the person was engaged in the business of selling such property, in which case the net proceeds would be counted as income from self-employment); (2) withdrawals of bank deposits; (3) money borrowed; (4) tax refunds; (5) gifts; and (6) lump-sum inheritances or insurance payments.

**Family income.** The total income of a family is the algebraic sum of the amounts received by all income recipients in the family.

In the income distribution for families, the lowest income group (less than $4,000) includes those families who were classified as having no income in the income year and those reporting a loss in net income from farm and nonfarm self-employment or in rental income. Many of these were living on income "in kind," savings, or gifts; or were newly constituted families, or families in which the sole breadwinner had recently died or had left the household. However, many of the families who reported no income probably had some money income which was not recorded in the survey.

It should be noted that although the income statistics refer to receipts during the preceding year, the composition of families refers to the time of the survey. The income of the family does not include amounts received by persons who were members of the family during all or part of the income year if these persons no longer resided with the family at the time of enumeration. On the other hand, family income includes amounts reported by related persons who did not reside with the family during the income year but who were members of the family at the time of enumeration.

The median income is the amount which divides the distribution into two equal groups, one having incomes above the median, and the other having incomes below the median. The medians for families are based on all families.

**Low-income (poverty) definition.** Families and unrelated individuals are classified as being above or below the low-income level using the poverty index adopted by a Federal Interagency Committee in 1969. This index is based on the Department of Agriculture's 1961 Economy Food Plan and reflects the different consumption requirements of families based on their size and composition, sex and age of the family head, and farm-nonfarm residence. In order to keep the poverty index constant over time, the thresholds are updated annually based on changes in the Consumer Price Index. The low-income threshold for a nonfarm family of four was $5,038 in 1974, $4,275 in 1972, and $2,973 in 1959. Corresponding low-income thresholds for a farm family of four were $4,302 in 1974, $3,643 in 1972, and $2,539 in 1959.

In analyzing data on the low-income population, the following limitations should be noted. The low-income concept has been developed in order to identify, in dollar terms, a minimum level of income adequacy for families of different types in keeping with American consumption patterns. Based on an analysis of the percent of income devoted to food expenditures, an estimate was developed of the minimum cost at which an American family, making average choices, can be provided with a diet meeting recommended nutritional goals. Consequently, it is an overall statistical yardstick which reflects the different consumption requirements of families of different size, taking into account family composition and farm-nonfarm residence. Insofar as individual circumstances or consumption patterns differ, the dollar value of the low-income threshold for a given family size may not represent the money income required by an individual family to maintain a level of economic well-being equivalent to other families with similar incomes.

**Rounding.** The individual figures in this report are rounded to the nearest thousand. With few exceptions, the individual figures have not been adjusted to group totals, which are independently rounded. Percentages are rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent; therefore, the percentages in a distribution do not always add to exactly 100.0 percent. The totals, however, are always shown as 100.0. Percentages are based on the rounded absolute numbers.

## SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

**Source of data.** Most of the estimates in this report are April-centered five-quarter averages of data obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS) of the Bureau of the Census for 1960, 1970, and 1975. (See "Definitions and Explanations.") Tables A, B, D, and E and tables 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7 contain this type of estimate. Tables C and F and table 3 contain, respectively, (1) data on fertility and birth expectations from the June 1975 CPS; (2) data on income and low-income status for the year 1974 obtained in the March 1975 CPS; and (3) data from the March 1975 CPS on household and family characteristics of farm and nonfarm families.

**Current Population Survey (CPS).** The present Current Population Survey sample was initially selected from 1970 census files and has been updated continuously to reflect new construction where possible. (See section "Nonsampling variability" below.) The present sample is spread over 461 areas comprising 923 counties

and independent cities, with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 47,000 occupied housing units are eligible for interview each month. Of this number, 2,000 occupied units, on the average, are visited but interviews are not obtained because the occupants are not found at home after repeated calls or are unavailable for some other reason. In addition to the 47,000 eligible occupied units, there are also about 8,000 sample units in an average month that are visited but are found to be vacant or otherwise not to be interviewed.

In 1970, the sample was spread over 449 areas comprising 863 counties and independent cities, with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 50,000 occupied households were eligible for interview each month.

The data collected in 1960 in the CPS were based on a sample spread over 333 areas comprising 641 counties and independent cities, with coverage in 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 35,000 occupied households were eligible for interview each month.

The estimation procedure used with CPS data involves the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, race, and sex. For 1972 through 1975 these independent estimates were based on statistics from the 1970 Census of Population; statistics on births, deaths, immigration, and emigration; and statistics on the strength of the Armed Forces. For data collected in the Current Population Surveys for the years 1960 and 1970, the independent estimates used were based on statistics from the 1950 and 1960 Census of Population, respectively.

**Reliability of the estimates.** Since the CPS estimates in this report are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from the figures that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same schedules, instructions, and enumerators. There are two types of errors possible in an estimate based on a sample survey, sampling and nonsampling. For estimates in this report, indications of the magnitude of sampling error are provided but the extent of nonsampling error is generally unknown. For these reasons, particular care should be exercised in the interpretation of figures based on a relatively small number of cases or on small differences between estimates.

**Nonsampling variability.** As in any survey work, the results are subject to errors of response and nonreporting in addition to sampling variability. Nonsampling errors can be attributed to many sources, e.g., inability to obtain information about all cases in the sample, definitional difficulties, differences in the interpretation of questions, inability or unwillingness to provide correct information on the part of respondents, inability to recall information, mistakes made in collection such as in recording or coding the data, mistakes made in processing the data, mistakes made in estimating values for missing data and failure to represent all units with the sample (undercoverage). The approximate magnitude of two sources of undercoverage in CPS is known and is described next.

Approximately 600,000 conventional new construction units (excludes mobile homes, hotels, motels, etc.) were issued building permits prior to the 1970 census but building was not completed by the time of the census (i.e., April 1970); these units have no representation in the CPS sample. Only conventional new construction for which building permits were issued after the Census, is represented. In addition to undercoverage of conventional new construction, CPS misses approximately one-half of all new mobile homes (i.e., about 700,000 units). These are missed because there is no systematic sampling procedure to provide representation of mobile homes constructed since the 1970 census. (Note: These estimates of missed units are relevant to the 1975 estimates only and not to the 1960 and 1970 CPS estimates where the extent of undercoverage was unknown.)

**Sampling variability.** The reliability of an estimate is described in terms of standard errors, which are primarily measures of sampling variability, that is, the variations that occur by chance because a sample rather than the whole of the population is surveyed. As calculated for this report, the standard error also partially measures the effect of certain response and enumeration errors, but it does not measure, as such, any systematic biases in the data. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census figure by less than the standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that this difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error, and the chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error.

All statements of comparison involving census data appearing in the text are significant at a 1.6 standard error level or better and most are significant at a level of more than 2.0 standard errors. This means that for most differences cited in the text, the estimated difference is greater than twice the standard error of the difference. Statements of comparison qualified in some way (e.g., by the use of the phrase "some evidence") have a level of significance between 1.6 and 2.0 standard errors.

**Note when using small estimates.** Percent distributions are shown in the report only when the base of the percentage is greater than 75,000. Because of the large standard errors involved, there is little chance that percentages would reveal useful information when computed on a smaller base. Estimated totals are shown,

however, even though the relative standard errors of these totals are larger than those for the corresponding percentages. These smaller estimates are provided primarily to permit combinations of the categories as serve each user's needs.

**Reliability of an estimated percentage.** The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the percentage and the size of the total upon which the percentage is based. Estimated percentages are relatively more reliable than the corresponding estimates of the numerators of the percentages, particularly if the percentages are 50 percent or more.

**Standard error tables and their use. Standard errors for data based on the CPS.** Instead of providing individual standard error tables for each characteristic of interest, generalized standard error tables for estimated numbers and estimated percentages, by farm and nonfarm status, are provided in tables A-1 through A-9.

The figures presented in these tables provide approximations to the standard errors of various CPS estimates shown in this report. All tables except A-3 and A-7 through A-10 relate to five-quarter annual averages centered on April. Table A-1 shows standard errors of estimated numbers of persons in the farm population. Table A-2 shows standard errors of estimated numbers of persons in the total or nonfarm population employed in agriculture and nonagricultural industries. Table A-3 shows standard errors of estimated numbers of families by farm and nonfarm residence for income and low-income characteristics and household and family characteristics. Tables A-4 through A-8 contain the standard errors of estimated percentages calculated from CPS data. Table A-4 contains standard errors of estimated percentages of persons in the farm population. Tables A-5 and A-6 contain, respectively, standard errors of estimated percentages of persons in the nonfarm population employed in agriculture and the total or White nonfarm population employed in nonagricultural industries. Tables A-7 and A-8 contain, respectively, the standard errors of estimated percentages of farm and nonfarm families for household and family characteristics, with factors to be applied to the tables to get standard errors for income or low-income data. Table A-9 contains standard errors of estimated fertility rates for the nonfarm population, and A-10 contains estimates of the number of ever-married women and number of currently married women reporting birth expectations, by age, race, and farm-nonfarm residence for June 1975 CPS data.

In all of the standard error tables, standard errors for intermediate values not shown may be approximated by interpolation. In order to derive standard errors that would be applicable to a wide variety of items and could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. In addition, where two or more items have nearly equal standard errors, such as total population and White population, one table is used to represent them. As a result, the tables of standard errors provide an indication of the order of magnitude of the standard errors rather than the precise standard error for any specific item.

**Illustration of the use of tables of standard errors.** Table 1 of this report shows that in 1975 there were 4,585,000 males living on farms. Table A-1 shows that the standard error of an April-centered five-quarter estimate of this size is approximately 101,000 (determined by interpolation and rounding to the same accuracy as in the table). The chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from a complete census figure by less than 101,000. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from a complete census figure by less than 202,000 (twice the standard error), i.e., the 95 percent confidence interval would be from 4,383,000 to 4,787,000.

Of these 4,585,000 males, 321,000 or 7.0 percent are of Black and other races. Table A-4 shows the standard error of 7.0 percent on a base of 4,585,000 to be approximately 0.5 percentage points (determined by interpolation and rounding to the same accuracy as in the table). Chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated 7.0 percent would be within 0.5 percentage points of a complete census figure, and chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would be within 1.0 percentage point of a complete census figure, i.e., the 95 percent confidence interval would be from 6.0 to 8.0 percent.

**Standard error of a difference.** For a difference between two sample estimates, the standard error is approximately equal to the square root of the sum of the squared standard errors of the estimates; the estimates can be in terms of numbers, percents, ratios, medians, etc. This will represent the actual standard error quite accurately for the difference between two estimates of the same characteristic in two different areas, or for the difference between separate and uncorrelated characteristics in the same area. If, however, there is a high positive correlation between the two characteristics, the formula will overestimate the true standard error.

**Illustration of the computation of the standard error of a difference.** Table 1 of this report shows that in 1975 there were 4,279,000 females on farms. The apparent difference between the number of females on farms and number of males on farms is 306,000. As shown above, the standard error of 4,585,000 males on farms in 1975 is 101,000. Table A-1 shows that the standard error of an April-centered five-quarter estimate

of 4,279,000 is approximately 96,000. To obtain the standard error of the estimated difference, use the following formula:

$$\sigma_{(x-y)} = \sqrt{\sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2}$$

$\sigma_x$ = standard error of the estimated number of males on farms in 1975.

$\sigma_y$ = standard error of the estimated number of females on farms in 1975.

Therefore, the standard error of the estimated difference of 306,000 is about

$$139{,}000 = \sqrt{(101{,}000)^2 + (96{,}000)^2}$$

This means the chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated difference based on the samples would vary from the difference derived using complete census figures by less than 139,000. The 68 percent confidence interval around the 306,000 difference is from 167,000 to 445,000, i.e., 306,000 ± 139,000. A conclusion that the average estimate of the difference derived from all possible samples of same size and design lies within a range computed in this way would be correct for about 68 percent of all possible samples. The 95 percent confidence interval is 28,000 to 584,000; thus, we can conclude with 95 percent confidence that the number of males on farms in 1975 is actually greater than the number of females on farms in 1975.

**Standard error of a ratio.** The standard error of a ratio, where the numerator and denominator are both sample estimates but the numerator is not a subset of the denominator, cannot be read directly from any of the standard error tables. It is possible to approximate the standard error of certain ratios where the denominator, y, represents a count of families or households of a certain class and the numerator, x, represents a count of persons with a characteristic who are members of these families or households.

Example: The number of persons having the characteristic in a given household may be 0, 1, 2, 3 or more; as, for example, the average number of own children under 18 per family, or the average number of persons aged 65 and over per family. For ratios of this kind, the standard error is approximated by the following formula:

$$\sigma_{(x/y)} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^2 \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_y}{y}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma_x}{x}\right)^2\right]}$$

In this case, the standard error of the estimated number of families or households, $\sigma_y$, should be calculated from table A-3 and the standard error of the estimated number of persons with the characteristic, $\sigma_x$, should be obtained from table A-1.

**Standard error of a fertility rate.** Table C shows that in 1975 there were 2,205 children ever born per 1,000 ever-married farm women aged 25 to 34. Table A-10 shows that there were about 337,000 women in this group. Table A-9 shows the standard error of a rate of 2,205 children on a base of 337,000 women to be approximately 160. Multiplying the standard error of 160 by 1.38 (the factor for fertility standard errors of the farm population), the standard error becomes 221. Consequently, the chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have shown a fertility rate differing from a complete census figure by less than 221. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would have shown a fertility rate differing from a complete census figure by less than 442 (twice the standard error), i.e., the 95 percent confidence interval would be between 1,763 and 2,647 children ever born per 1,000 ever-married farm women aged 25 to 34.

**Table A-1. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers of Persons in the Farm Population, for Five-Quarter Averages Centered on April**

(68 chances out of 100. Numbers in thousands)

| Size of estimate | Standard error |
|---|---|
| 25 | 6 |
| 50 | 9 |
| 100 | 13 |
| 250 | 20 |
| 500 | 29 |
| 1,000 | 42 |
| 2,500 | 70 |
| 5,000 | 107 |
| 10,000 | 173 |
| 15,000 | 235 |

Note: For standard errors for the metropolitan or nonmetropolitan farm population, multiply the standard errors above by 1.4. For standard errors for persons in the farm population for the years 1960 to 1966, multiply the standard error above by 1.2.

**Table A-2. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers of Persons in the Total or Nonfarm Population Employed in Agriculture and Nonagricultural Industries, for Five-Quarter Averages Centered on April**

(68 chances out of 100. Numbers in thousands)

| Size of estimate | Standard error of estimate | | | Size of estimate | Standard error of estimate | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Employed in agriculture | Employed in nonagricultural industries | | | Employed in agriculture | Employed in nonagricultural industries | |
| | | Total or White | Black and other races | | | Total or White | Black and other races |
| 25 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 5,000 | 105 | 60 | 47 |
| 50 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 10,000 | 176 | 84 | 44 |
| 100 | 12 | 9 | 8 | 15,000 | (X) | 100 | (X) |
| 250 | 19 | 14 | 13 | 25,000 | (X) | 123 | (X) |
| 500 | 27 | 19 | 18 | 50,000 | (X) | 152 | (X) |
| 1,000 | 39 | 27 | 25 | 100,000 | (X) | 126 | (X) |
| 2,500 | 67 | 43 | 37 | | | | |

X Not applicable.

Note: For standard errors of estimated numbers of persons in the total and nonfarm population, use column 3 for total or White and column 4 for Black and other races.

**Table A-3. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers of Families for Household or Family and Income or Low-Income Characteristics**

(68 chances out of 100. Numbers in thousands)

| Size of estimate | Standard error of estimates | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Household and family characteristics[1] | | | Income or low-income characteristics | | |
| | Farm | Nonfarm | | Farm | Nonfarm | |
| | | Total or White | Black and other races | | Total or White | Black and other races |
| 25 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 5 |
| 50 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 7 | 7 |
| 100 | 16 | 12 | 11 | 14 | 10 | 10 |
| 250 | 26 | 19 | 18 | 23 | 16 | 15 |
| 500 | 37 | 26 | 25 | 32 | 23 | 21 |
| 1,000 | 53 | 37 | 34 | 47 | 33 | 29 |
| 2,500 | 88 | 58 | 51 | 77 | 51 | 44 |
| 5,000 | 133 | 82 | 64 | 117 | 72 | 55 |
| 10,000 | 211 | 114 | 62 | 186 | 99 | 53 |
| 15,000 | 283 | 136 | (X) | 250 | 119 | (X) |
| 25,000 | (X) | 169 | (X) | (X) | 147 | (X) |
| 50,000 | (X) | 211 | (X) | (X) | 182 | (X) |
| 100,000 | (X) | 197 | (X) | (X) | 162 | (X) |

X Not applicable.

[1]For standard errors for metropolitan or nonmetropolitan data, multiply the appropriate standard errors above by 1.4.

**Table A-4. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages of Persons in the Farm Population, for Five-Quarter Averages Centered on April**

(68 chances out of 100)

| Base of percentage (thousands) | Estimated percentage | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 or 99 | 2 or 98 | 5 or 95 | 10 or 90 | 25 or 75 | 50 |
| 25 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 5.5 | 7.6 | 10.9 | 12.6 |
| 50 | 1.8 | 2.5 | 3.9 | 5.4 | 7.7 | 8.9 |
| 100 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 2.8 | 3.8 | 5.5 | 6.3 |
| 250 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 3.5 | 4.0 |
| 500 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 2.8 |
| 1,000 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 2.0 |
| 2,500 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.3 |
| 5,000 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 0.9 |
| 10,000 | 0.13 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| 15,000 | 0.10 | 0.14 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 |

Note: For metropolitan or nonmetropolitan standard errors, multiply the appropriate standard errors above by 1.4. For standard errors for persons in the farm population for the years 1960 to 1966, multiply the standard errors above by 1.2.

**Table A-5. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages of Persons in the Nonfarm Population Employed in Agriculture, for Five-Quarter Averages Centered on April**

(68 chances out of 100)

| Base of percentage (thousands) | Estimated percentage | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 or 99 | 2 or 98 | 5 or 95 | 10 or 90 | 25 or 75 | 50 |
| 25 | 2.3 | 3.2 | 5.0 | 6.9 | 10.0 | 11.6 |
| 50 | 1.6 | 2.3 | 3.6 | 4.9 | 7.1 | 8.2 |
| 100 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 5.0 | 5.8 |
| 250 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 3.2 | 3.7 |
| 500 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 2.2 | 2.6 |
| 1,000 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 1.8 |
| 2,500 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.2 |
| 5,000 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.8 |
| 10,000 | 0.11 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| 15,000 | 0.09 | 0.13 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| 25,000 | 0.07 | 0.10 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| 50,000 | 0.05 | 0.07 | 0.11 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| 100,000 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.08 | 0.11 | 0.2 | 0.2 |

**Table A-6. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages of Persons in the Total or White Nonfarm Population Employed in Nonagricultural Industries, for Five-Quarter Averages Centered on April**

(68 chances out of 100)

| Base of percentage (thousands) | Estimated percentage | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 or 99 | 2 or 98 | 5 or 95 | 10 or 90 | 25 or 75 | 50 |
| 25 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 3.8 | 5.2 | 7.5 | 8.7 |
| 50 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 2.7 | 3.7 | 5.3 | 6.2 |
| 100 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.9 | 2.6 | 3.8 | 4.4 |
| 250 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 2.8 |
| 500 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 1.9 |
| 1,000 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 1.4 |
| 2,500 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 0.9 |
| 5,000 | 0.12 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| 10,000 | 0.09 | 0.12 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| 15,000 | 0.07 | 0.10 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| 25,000 | 0.05 | 0.08 | 0.12 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| 50,000 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.08 | 0.12 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| 100,000 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.06 | 0.08 | 0.12 | 0.14 |

Note: For estimated percentages for Black and other races, multiply the standard errors above by 0.95.

**Table A-7. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages of Farm Families for Household and Family Characteristics**

(68 chances out of 100)

| Base of estimated percentages (thousands) | Estimated percentages | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 or 99 | 2 or 98 | 5 or 95 | 10 or 90 | 25 or 75 | 50 |
| 25 | 3.2 | 4.6 | 7.1 | 9.8 | 14.1 | 16.3 |
| 50 | 2.3 | 3.2 | 5.0 | 6.9 | 10.0 | 11.5 |
| 100 | 1.6 | 2.3 | 3.5 | 4.9 | 7.1 | 8.1 |
| 250 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 2.2 | 3.1 | 4.5 | 5.2 |
| 500 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 3.2 | 3.6 |
| 1,000 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 2.2 | 2.6 |
| 2,500 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.6 |
| 5,000 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.2 |
| 10,000 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.8 |
| 15,000 | 0.13 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.7 |

Note: For estimated percentages of farm families with income or low-income characteristics, multiply the standard errors above by 0.87. For estimated percentages of farm families with metropolitan or nonmetropolitan characteristics, multiply the standard errors above by 1.4.

**Table A-8. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages of Nonfarm Families for Household and Family Characteristics, Total or White Population**

(68 chances out of 100)

| Base of percentages (thousands) | Estimated percentages | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 or 99 | 2 or 98 | 5 or 95 | 10 or 90 | 25 or 75 | 50 |
| 25 | 2.3 | 3.3 | 5.1 | 7.1 | 10.2 | 11.8 |
| 50 | 1.7 | 2.3 | 3.6 | 5.0 | 7.2 | 8.3 |
| 100 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 2.6 | 3.5 | 5.1 | 5.9 |
| 250 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 3.2 | 3.7 |
| 500 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 2.3 | 2.6 |
| 1,000 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 1.9 |
| 2,500 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.1 |
| 5,000 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.8 |
| 10,000 | 0.12 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| 15,000 | 0.10 | 0.13 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| 25,000 | 0.07 | 0.10 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| 50,000 | 0.05 | 0.07 | 0.11 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| 100,000 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.08 | 0.11 | 0.2 | 0.2 |

Note: For income and low-income characteristics for total or White nonfarm families, multiply the standard errors above by 0.88; for Black and other races nonfarm families, multiply by 0.86. For estimated standard errors of percentages of Black and other races with household and family characteristics, multiply the standard errors above by 0.95.

**Table A-9. Standard Errors of Estimated Fertility Rates for the Nonfarm Population**

(68 chances out of 100)

| Number of women (thousands) | Children ever born per 1,000 women | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 500 | 1,000 | 1,500 | 2,000 | 2,500 | 3,000 | 3,500 | 4,000 |
| 250 | 50 | 90 | 130 | 160 | 20 | 240 | 270 | 310 |
| 500 | 40 | 60 | 90 | 120 | 140 | 170 | 190 | 220 |
| 750 | 30 | 50 | 70 | 90 | 120 | 140 | 160 | 180 |
| 1,000 | 30 | 50 | 60 | 80 | 100 | 120 | 140 | 160 |
| 2,000 | 20 | 30 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 100 | 110 |
| 5,000 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 50 | 60 | 70 |
| 10,000 | 10 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 30 | 40 | 40 | 50 |
| 15,000 | 10 | 10 | 20 | 20 | 30 | 30 | 40 | 40 |
| 20,000 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 20 | 20 | 30 | 30 | 30 |
| 25,000 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 30 | 30 |

Note: Multiply these standard errors by 1.38 to obtain standard errors of fertility rates for the farm population.

Table A-10. Estimates of the Number of Ever-Married Women and Number of Currently Married Women Reporting Birth Expectations, by Age, Race and Farm-Nonfarm Residence: June 1975 CPS

(Numbers in thousands)

| Women by age | Total | | | White | | | Black and other races | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Farm | Non-farm | Total | Farm | Non-farm | Total | Farm | Non-farm |
| WOMEN EVER MARRIED | | | | | | | | | |
| Total, 15 to 44 years.. | 31,453 | 939 | 30,514 | 27,621 | 897 | 26,724 | 3,832 | 42 | 3,790 |
| 15 to 24 years..... | 6,606 | 132 | 6,473 | 5,885 | 123 | 5,762 | 721 | 9 | 711 |
| 25 to 34 years..... | 13,750 | 337 | 13,414 | 12,078 | 326 | 11,753 | 1,672 | 11 | 1,661 |
| 35 to 44 years..... | 11,097 | 469 | 10,627 | 9,659 | 448 | 9,210 | 1,438 | 21 | 1,417 |
| WOMEN CURRENTLY MARRIED | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 to 39 years old, reporting birth expectations..... | 18,828 | 579 | 18,248 | 17,092 | 554 | 16,538 | 1,736 | 25 | 1,710 |

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, prepublication records, Current Population Survey, June 1975.